From: Tony Sabbadini
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 11:13am

Subject: Anti-trust getting out of hand

Department of Justice,

I'm glad you have reached a settlement agreement with Microsoft, for I have lost patience with this entire case and cannot stand to further see Microsoft competitors abuse the court system to further their own business goals. The recent lawsuit filed by AOL claiming that Microsoft has "unfairly" competed against them doesn't just border on the frivolous but jumps into the realm of ludicrous. To the knowledge of myself and anyone or any source I know, Microsoft has never held a gun to someone's head and told them they have to use their browser software. All Microsoft has done is offer a software package at a better value proposition than their Netscape (now AOL) competition. They did this by bundling Internet Explorer into the Windows operating system at NO ADDITIONAL COST to the consumer. If anyone complains about free software, it would be the competitors who can't offer the consumer such a deal. Additionally, by integrating the browser into the OS, Microsoft has made the Internet a more fluid experience that ties into the off line realm of computing. Microsoft wrote their own software, did not steal it, and did not force anyone to use it. Consumers should applaud this, but because they have been brainwashed by jealous Microsoft competitors who can't compete on such a level, they vilify Microsoft as a "monopolist". If Microsoft ever stopped offering software at a lower value proposition than it does now, our "free market" should put them out of business and allow a competitor to take their place. The government cannot and should NOT try to accelerate this process by interfering with the successful. Not only does this reek of hypocrisy, but also discourages any budding entrepreneur from creating and building something new. Stop listening to these weak competitors and get rid of this case!!!

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